

To: Zito, Kelly[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV]; Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Acevedo, Janie[Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov]
Cc: Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; StClair, Christie[StClair.Christie@epa.gov]; Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]; Higuchi, Dean[Higuchi.Dean@epa.gov]; Keener, Bill[Keener.Bill@epa.gov]
From: Gray, David
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Subject: R6 Gold King Mine Response - 8/12/15 Update

New Mexico Gold King Mine Summary

Region 6 Update (8/12)

In New Mexico, EPA has a team of one incident commander, four federal on-scene coordinators, twelve water quality experts, a logistics manager and thirty-two contractors responding to the spill as it reaches communities in the state. EPA mobile command center is operational and a sample processing and shipment center has been established in Farmington.

EPA has placed personnel with NMED in Santa Fe to enhance planning and communication between the agencies. EPA Region 6 has one federal on-scene coordinator and public information officer stationed with Unified Command in Durango, Colorado.

EPA launched a toll-free community hotline at 844 - 607 - 9700 (English, Spanish and soon Navajo available) for the Gold King Mine response activities in Colorado, Ute. Tribe, New Mexico and Navajo Nation.

Regional Administrator Ron Curry attended the public information meeting at the Farmington Convention Center to discuss EPA's response activities and coordination with state and local officials. NMED Secretary Flynn was also a panelist at the meeting attended by 100 participants.

EPA is continuing collecting water quality samples from nine locations in the river near intakes for Aztec, Farmington, Lower Valley Water Users Association, Morning Star Water Supply System and the North Star Water User Association. Each of these locations will continue to be monitored as the spill makes its way past these areas. EPA has two dedicated water quality experts available in New Mexico to assist the five drinking water systems.

Water quality laboratory results from six samples taken on Aug 6 and 7 before the spill reached Aztec and Farmington areas confirm that water conditions within the river met drinking water requirements. These results will be used by local officials to evaluate conditions after the spill to

determine when water use can return to normal. Preliminary data from Aug 8, the first date the spill reached the area, is undergoing review by EPA technical experts and should be available soon.

In New Mexico – EPA is only providing water for livestock. We assumed that responsibility from San Juan County on Monday, Aug 10 using our emergency response contractor. We have issued a \$500,000 work assignment to the contractor and completed 4 distributions on Tuesday, Aug 11.

EPA and New Mexico Environment Department are providing free water quality testing for domestic drinking water wells along the river. NMED and EPA provided a sign up booth at the San Juan County Fair for private well owners.

Teams of qualified technicians are going door-to-door to collect samples for laboratory analysis. Six teams, made up of NMED and/or EPA technicians, sampled 18 private domestic wells today and 14 wells the day before.